Senate District J Senator

Forrest Dunbar, Registered Democrat



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AGE: 38

OCCUPATION: Army Guard Officer/

Attorney

LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN ALASKA: Lifelong

ALASKAN COMMUNITIES LIVED IN:

Eagle, Cordova, Anchorage

EDUCATION:

Cordova High School, American University, Harvard Kennedy School, Yale Law School

MILITARY SERVICE:

Army National Guard - Major

POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENT POSITIONS:

Third term on the Anchorage Assembly, two-time Chair; formerly Vice President of Scenic Foothills Community Council, Attorney at Office of Public Advocacy, Returned Peace Corps Volunteer (Kazakhstan), Wildland Firefighter with Northstars

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:

Formerly Attorney at Chugach Government Solutions;

briefly Stoel Rives LLP, before full-time military service; commercial fisherman, canneries, Fred Meyer employee in my youth.

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS MEMBERSHIPS:

Board member at Anchorage Park Foundation, founding board member of Muldoon Farmers Market; former intern at Alaska Legal Services; Congregation Beth Sholom.

SPECIAL INTERESTS:

Basketball, Football, using our beautiful trails, reading, film, podcasts, fishing.

OTHER:

I grew up in Rural Alaska, but eagerly came to Anchorage for judo, basketball, and many other reasons. I settled here after school, passed the Bar Exam, purchased my home, and built my life. I love serving this community.

STATEMENT:

It's been an honor to serve on the Anchorage Assembly, and I'm running to continue that work in the Alaska Legislature. As long as the State fails to address challenges and passes costs to local governments, our ability to make Anchorage safer and more prosperous is hamstrung. The State has left a tragic shortage of behavioral health services, and we see the consequence on our streets. For years the State pushed their share of school bond debt back to districts and onto Anchorage taxpayers. After years of arguing in Juneau, we still don't have predictable dividends, or sustainable funding for schools and infrastructure.

But we have a real opportunity to create a bipartisan coalition in the Alaska Senate that's committed to solving these problems. I am determined to see that happen.

Together, we can invest in affordable housing, childcare, and our universities. We can harness new federal funding to improve transportation, including pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, advance renewable energy, and improve broadband and outdoor infrastructure. We can join our tribal partners to tackle challenges and promote cultural tourism to increase new visitors. We can reduce the unacceptable rates of child abuse, substance misuse, and sexual violence in Alaska, prevention efforts I helped fund on the Assembly. And we can protect healthcare and abortion access.

Anchorage and Alaska as a whole are great places to live, but they can be even better: more affordable, safer, thriving, and with the kind of well-paying jobs we need for this and future generations.

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